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EXPEDITED EXAMINING PROCEDURE

PATENT
Docket No. 55943US003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): William BEDINGHAM) Group Art Unit: 1743
Serial No.: 09/677,805)
Confirmation No.: 3624) Examiner: Brian R. Gordon
Filed: 2 October 2000)
For: SAMPLE PROCESSING APPARATUS, METHODS AND SYSTEMS

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Commissioner for Patents
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Attn: Examiner Brian R. Gordon
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Mueting, Raasch & Gebhardt, P.A.

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Group 1743

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop AF
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 20, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on the page entitled "Amendments to the Claims".

Remarks begin on the page entitled "Remarks".